

## Left in the Dark: Be Prepared for When the Lights Go Out

Power outages caused by a large-scale disaster tend to last much longer than the average blackout. Be prepared to be without electricity for a few days not hours by having supplies and plans in place.

- Invest in emergency lighting, safe heating alternatives, and backup [power sources](#) for your cellphone and home-use medical devices.
- Fully charge your cellphone, medical devices, and back-up power sources if you know a disaster, like a hurricane, is coming.
- Contact your local fire department and utility companies if you rely on an electricity-powered, home use medical device. Some electricity providers keep a “priority reconnection service” list of power-dependent customers.

For more information, tips, and lists, visit [cdc.gov/prepyourhealth](https://cdc.gov/prepyourhealth).